



Program Criteria Comparison

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE TRACK and ARIZONA ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE TRACK

National Environmental Performance Track and Arizona Environmental Performance Track are voluntary programs designed to foster and reward environmental excellence. National Environmental Performance Track is a national EPA program and Arizona Environmental Performance Track is a statewide Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) program. This fact sheet summarizes and compares criteria for National Environmental Performance Track and the Arizona Environmental Performance Track programs. For additional information on these programs or incentives, see program web sites or contact program coordinators.

Common Program Criteria:

- *EMS Components:* Common elements include: an EMS with a written policy, planned targets and goals, clear roles and responsibilities for meeting goals, plans for checking and correcting non-conformance issues, and documented management review.
- *EMS Self-Assessment:* Facility must conduct regular EMS self-assessments and compliance audits.
- *EMS Independent Assessment:* An independent EMS assessment is to have taken place at the time of application.
- *EMS Cycle:* Facility must have completed one full EMS cycle including implementation, evaluation, and review.
- *Past Performance:* Facility must demonstrate performance improvements for two environmental indicators (one indicator for small facilities). Commitments must be reported in a standard format and performance for most commitments must be normalized.
- *Future Performance:* Facility must make a commitment to future performance improvements for four environmental indicators from at least two unique categories (two indicators for small facilities). Commitments must be reported in a standard format and performance for most commitments must be normalized.
- *Annual Report:* Report must include EMS data and progress toward meeting goals, and include documentation that corrective action has been taken to address compliance and other EMS issues.
- *Community Outreach:* Facility must provide a plan to identify and respond to local concerns and inform community of important matters that affect it.
- *Community References:* Facility must provide community references (e.g., member of a citizen group, union, local agency).
- *Compliance Record:* Facility must pass a comprehensive compliance screen covering federal, state, and local regulations.
- *Self-Certification:* Senior facility manager must certify that all statements in application and annual reports are true, accurate, and complete.
- *Membership Term:* Membership is for three years.
- *Site Visits:* Periodic site visits are conducted as part of the program.

Arizona Environmental Performance Track - Additional Criteria:

- *Pollution Prevention:* Facility must develop an advanced pollution prevention program.
- *Environmental Preferable Purchasing:* Facility must make a commitment to using products or services with a reduced environmental impact when compared to other products or services serving the same purpose. In addition, facility must develop a preferred vendor program that utilizes other Arizona Environmental Performance Track members.

National Environmental Performance Track - Additional Criteria:

- N/A

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